

## Message Text

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ACTION AGR-20

INFO OCT-01 EA-11 ADP-00 AID-20 CIAE-00 COME-00 EB-11

FRB-02 INR-10 NSAE-00 RSC-01 TRSE-00 XMB-07 OPIC-12

CIEP-02 LAB-06 SIL-01 OMB-01 USIE-00 DODE-00 PA-03

PRS-01 SSO-00 INRE-00 RSR-01 NSC-10 SS-15 STR-08

CEA-02 PM-07 NSCE-00 /152 W

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PASS SECRETARY BUTZ AND SECRETARY DENT.

E. O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EAGR, ETRD, JA, US

SUBJECT: PRESS REACTION TO U. S. SOYBEAN EMBARGO

1. ALL JAPANESE DAILIES CARRIED ARTICLES AND EDITORIALS JUNE 28 AND 29 ON U. S. SOYBEAN EMBARGO AND ITS EFFECTS. MOST EXTREME REACTION WAS ASAHI COMMENTARY TO EFFECT THAT U. S. ACTION INDICATED AN ISOLATIONIST TREND, AND THAT IF U. S. EVER STOPPED EXPORTS OF FARM PRODUCTS TO JAPAN, ONE QUARTER OF JAPANESE PEOPLE WOULD STARVE, AND LIVESTOCK PRODUCTS WOULD NO LONGER BE AVAILABLE TO MOST JAPANESE.

2. OTHER EDITORIALS WERE MORE MODERATE, BUT STILL CRITICAL OF U. S. ACTION. SANKEI CALLED ON U. S. TO RETRACT ACTION OR AT LEAST DECIDE NOT TO APPLY STEP TO EXPORT CONTRACTS ALREADY CONCLUDED. NIHON KEIZAI CALLED ACTION REGRETTABLE, PARTICULARLY IN THAT IT APPLIED TO FIRM EXPORT CONTRACTS, AND ARGUED THAT U. S. SHOULD GIVE GREATEST POSSIBLE CONSIDERATION TO JAPAN IN DETERMINATION OF EXPORT  
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QUOTAS. NIHON KEIZAI ALSO CALLED ON GOJ TO TAKE PROMPT MEASURES TO PREVENT SPREAD OF FEELING OF UNREST WHICH RESULTED FROM U. S. EMBARGO.

3. PRESS REPORTS ON EMBARGO GENERALLY NOTED INCREASING FEELING THAT JAPAN SHOULD ADOPT MORE SELF- SUFFICIENT POLICY IN AGRICULTURE. ALSO REPORTED WIDE SPREAD FEAR THAT PRICES OF SOYBEANS WOULD RISE SHARPLY IN JAPAN DUE TO SPECULATIVE PRESSURES. MANY ARTICLES EXPRESSED CONCERN THAT EMBARGO WOULD BE WIDENED TO INCLUDE CORN. OTHERS REPORTED BITTERNESS ON PART OF TRADING COMPANIES AND FOOD INDUSTRY. EDIBLE OIL INDUSTRY SOURCES REPORTDLY SAID THAT SOME PARTS OF INDUSTRY MAY HAVE TO SUSPEND OPERATIONS ENTIRELY.

4. AMBASADOR' S COMMENTS TO FONMIN OHIRA ON JUNE 28 WERE GIVEN WIDE COVERAGE IN PRESS. ARTICLES PARTICULARLY HIGHLIGHTED THE AMBASSADOR' S STATEMENTS THAT EXPORT EMBARGO IS ONLY FOR SHORT PERIOD, THAT ACTION TAKEN SO AS TO ENABLE U. S. TO CONTINUE STABLE SUPPLY TO TRADITIONAL CUSTOMERS SUCH AS JAPAN, AND THAT FULL CONSIDERATION WILL BE GIVEN TO JAPAN IN ALLOCATION OF SOYBEAN EXPORTS.

INGERSOLL

NOTE BY OC/ T: NSCE INADVERTENTLY OMITTED FROM ORIGINAL DISTRIBUTION.

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